



Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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For the week ending July 29, 2012

HAY HARVEST A MAIN FARM ACTIVITY LAST WEEK

Tennessee farmers last week devoted a great deal of time to harvesting warm season grasses for hay. July rainfall sparked unusually good growth, allowing warm season grasses to flourish. With the exception of corn, crops improved slightly in condition and are rated in mostly fair-to-good condition. Soybeans are blooming, and cotton is setting fruit. Pastures are greening-up and range from fair to good. Tobacco topping is in progress. The corn crop was rated mostly in very poor to poor condition with some very early harvest in the Southern section of Middle Tennessee. The main farm activities last week included hay and silage harvest, tobacco topping, and spraying for insects. Growers reported infestations of armyworms, budworms, and stinkbugs.

There were 6 days suitable for fieldwork last week. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 10 percent very short, 33 percent short, 55 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 19 percent very short, 41 percent short, 39 percent adequate and 1 percent surplus. Temperatures across the state last week continued to average above normal. Rainfall amounts were below normal across much of the state with the exception of the extreme East Tennessee, where rainfall averaged well above normal.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2011	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Corn – Dough or Beyond	88	75	62	68	Corn	26	31	27	15	1
Corn – Dent or Beyond	54	32	25	27	Cotton	3	11	33	49	4
Corn Silage – Harvested	56	43	7	7	Pastures	15	30	39	15	1
Cotton – Squaring	97	93	96	98	Soybeans	5	13	40	37	5
Cotton – Setting Bolls	70	55	60	73	Tobacco	1	15	33	42	9
Soybeans – Blooming	84	74	70	75						
Soybeans – Setting Pods	59	46	39	48						
Tobacco – Topped	48	38	35	34						

County Agent Comments

“Overall, crop conditions are improving for Lauderdale County and, of course, this is mostly due to recent rains. Rains are still sporadic but any rain is good at this point. Cotton and Soybeans are in good condition with corn being the real concern at this point. Did early corn get enough rain for kernel fill and is late corn going to recover from lack of rain? Hopefully we will still have some average yields on corn but certainly yields will be down. Farmers are making sprays for budworms, stinkbugs and armyworms in crops and have had several calls of armyworms in pasture. Cattle are in good condition.”
J. C. Dupree, Jr, Lauderdale County

“The producers in Fayette County faced hot and dry conditions this week. Insects are building in fields. Many of the crops are ahead of schedule. More rain is needed.”
Jeffery Via, Fayette County

“Late week showers brought .3" or less precipitation to the county, providing little relief to drought conditions. Some producers have made insecticide applications for armyworms in hay, pasture and soybeans.”
Jeff Lannom, Weakley County

“Not much in the way of rain this week but pastures and hay fields are really growing right now. Many acres of hay have been harvested this week. Beans continue to look better.”
Kevin Rose, Giles County

“Pastures and fields remain green. Pastures remain overgrazed with little recovery. Johnson grass is the primary grass in hay fields.”
Cynthia Zeitz, Jackson County

“Our hay fields are looking good after the rain, most of the corn the rain is too late to help. We have some corn that is a total loss because it did not germinate. Our soybeans and tobacco is looking much better. Where we have crabgrass and bermuda things look much better on the hay production for fall.”
Larry Moorehead, Moore County

“Thankful for the rain. A flush of Johnsongrass, crabgrass and other summer grasses has folks back in the hay fields harvesting hay. The rain has really helped the soybeans but was a little late to have a significant impact on the corn. Tobacco looks better as well.”
Ruth Correll, Wilson County

“Heat and humidity return! No rain for the past week giving most fields a chance to dry out. A few low areas have drowned out do to ponding from heavy downpours late last week. A little corn was shelled this week with yields reported in the 60 to 90 bushel range. Grain moisture ranged from 18 to 30 percent.”
Ed Burns, Franklin County

“More rain has improved our soybean crops and pasture condition.”
Jared Goad, Marion County

“Rains over the past 10-12 days have greened up the pasture and hayfields with crabgrass, dallisgrass and Johnsongrass showing good response. Other grasses such as fescue, timothy and Orchard grass is slow to respond if it is still there. Most corn past the point of help in filling our ears. Most soybeans show remarkable improvement.”
Scott Chadwell, Putnam County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: July 29, 2012 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending July 29, 2012				Current Week 7/29/12	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
West										
Ames_Plantation	97	64	82	3	0.00	0	22.91	-9.23	12.41	-5.78
Brownsville_TN	98	68	84	4	0.24	1	18.74	-13.41	8.50	-9.69
Covington	97	65	83	4	0.10	1	19.01	-12.73	6.87	-11.01
Dyersburg	99	66	85	5	0.07	1	16.51	-13.95	7.37	-10.11
Huntingdon_Wate	97	66	83	5	0.02	1	20.62	-11.34	11.93	-6.11
Jackson_Exp_Stn	97	67	83	4	0.31	1	22.54	-9.51	11.60	-7.02
Lexington_TN	96	64	82	4	0.11	1	21.58	-9.55	10.43	-7.35
Martin	99	66	84	6	0.34	2	18.77	-13.40	8.01	-10.75
Memphis_AG	98	67	85	3	0.00	0	22.71	-8.46	11.66	-5.84
Milan	98	65	83	6	0.03	1	21.01	-11.81	10.50	-8.53
Paris	95	66	82	5	0.28	1	21.77	-9.37	12.07	-5.39
Savannah_6SW	97	64	82	3	0.05	1	27.74	-7.18	14.78	-4.50
Selmer	97	64	83	6	0.00	0	27.41	-7.32	14.62	-4.69
Union_City	95	66	82	4	0.21	2	18.89	-12.44	9.29	-8.69
Middle										
Clarksville_Sew	98	68	83	6	0.26	1	16.63	-13.69	7.25	-9.25
Cookeville	93	64	80	4	0.13	1	28.57	-5.89	13.44	-5.82
Crossville_AP	89	63	79	5	0.12	2	27.13	-6.91	12.62	-6.22
Dickson_AG	92	64	80	2	0.00	0	22.46	-10.23	10.66	-7.85
Dover_1W	96	67	83	6	0.08	1	21.04	-10.62	10.35	-7.24
Fayetteville_TN	94	64	82	6	0.05	1	26.76	-6.40	11.77	-5.94
Jamestown	90	61	78	5	0.34	3	30.82	-2.28	15.10	-4.01
Kingston_Spring	95	66	82	5	0.04	1	27.05	-4.10	16.10	-0.92
Lewisburg	96	60	81	4	0.04	1	19.91	-13.89	9.22	-9.84
Livingston_WLIV	94	64	80	5	0.05	1	25.78	-6.20	9.53	-8.78
Lobelville	95	66	81	4	0.06	1	21.91	-12.08	11.28	-7.55
Murfreesboro_5N	95	64	81	3	0.00	0	25.75	-6.42	13.64	-4.59
Nashville_Metro	96	69	84	5	0.00	0	26.65	-2.26	15.60	-0.92
Oneida	91	63	79	6	0.10	1	31.44	-1.84	14.54	-4.72
Portland_TN	96	66	83	6	0.31	2	24.46	-7.04	12.78	-5.26
Pulaski_Water_P	92	64	80	2	0.36	2	25.90	-7.63	14.67	-3.29
Shelbyville	94	65	82	4	0.14	1	25.45	-8.24	11.53	-7.11
Sparta_TN	93	63	81	5	0.05	1	22.56	-11.01	9.58	-9.27
Springfield	94	66	82	5	0.29	1	30.79	0.44	19.10	1.78
Springhill	96	66	80	3	0.23	2	26.72	-7.03	15.63	-3.33
Tullahoma	92	67	81	4	0.26	2	28.20	-6.64	14.83	-3.87
Waynesboro_TN	95	66	80	4	0.19	2	27.88	-7.64	16.04	-3.52
East										
Chattanooga/Lov	95	68	84	6	0.00	0	27.00	-5.64	12.67	-4.07
Cleveland_6NNE	93	64	81	5	0.16	2	21.18	-12.41	9.61	-8.25
Dayton	94	65	82	5	0.01	1	31.61	-2.38	17.28	-0.51
Erwin_1W	90	63	77	5	3.22	6	30.79	0.48	20.09	1.43
Gatlinburg_2SW	92	62	78	6	0.02	1	36.89	2.18	20.32	-0.30
Greeneville	92	62	79	4	0.20	1	28.07	1.53	16.95	1.22
Kingston_AG	95	67	82	7	0.29	1	33.79	-1.88	18.81	-0.61
Knoxville_AP	93	67	82	6	0.00	0	31.21	1.53	15.42	-0.80
Newcomb	92	63	79	6	0.56	4	33.13	-0.15	16.67	-2.59
Norris_4NE	92	63	79	4	0.20	1	32.60	0.55	16.09	-1.91
Tri-City_RGNL_A	91	63	78	4	2.68	4	30.02	4.77	19.29	4.52

DFN = Departure from Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) measured in inches.

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